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Attachment to Z-15897/82

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NPIC/IEG (9/82)

27 SEPTEMBER 1982

NEW PROBABLE EXPLOSIVES PLANT UNDER CONSTRUCTION
KYONGHUNG PROB EXPL PLT N. AOJI-RI UCON, NORTH KOREA

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1. (SWN) SIGNIFICANCE: A PROBABLE SECOND EXPLOSIVES PLANT HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED UNDER CONSTRUCTION NEAR KYONGHUNG SINCE 1978.

2. (SWN) REMARKS: A LARGE PROBABLE EXPLOSIVES PLANT IN THE EARLY STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION WAS IDENTIFIED 6 KM NORTH OF KYONGHUNG AND 31 KM NORTH OF NAJIN IN NORTHEASTERN NORTH KOREA ON IMAGERY

EXTENSIVE CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY FOR THE NEW PLANT WAS UNDERWAY ON THE VALLEY FLOOR WITHIN A 2-BY 3-KM AREA (GRAPHIC 1). AT LEAST 34 PERMANENT BUILDINGS UNDER CONSTRUCTION, ONE PROBABLE ELECTRIC POWER SUBSTATION UNDER CONSTRUCTION, 38 CONSTRUCTION SUPPORT BUILDINGS/TENTS, AND 117 PERSONNEL TENTS WERE AT THE CONSTRUCTION SITE. FIVE OF THE PERMANENT BUILDINGS ARE REVETTED (3 SHOWN ON GRAPHIC 2). THE SITE IS CONNECTED BY RAIL AND HIGHWAY TO THE KYONGHUNG EXPLOSIVES PLANT AOJI-RI AND TO THE AOJI SYNTHETIC PETROLEUM PLANT CHOSEN. NONE OF THE CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY WAS PRESENT. MINIMAL ACTIVITY WAS OBSERVED THROUGH HEAVY CLOUD COVER IN THE VICINITY OF THE RAIL TO ROAD TRANSFER POINT SERVING THE NEW FACILITY ON

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(SWN) THIS NEW PROBABLE EXPLOSIVES FACILITY WOULD BE THE SECOND NEW PLANT TO BE CONSTRUCTED NEAR KYONGHUNG SINCE 1978. KYONGHUNG EXPLOSIVES PLANT AOJI-RI, WHICH HAS TWO EXPLOSIVES PRODUCTION LINES, WENT OPERATIONAL IN LATE 1981 OR EARLY 1982.

(SWN) ANALYSTS' COMMENTS: THE AREA UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT THE NEW PLANT IS LARGER THAN THE PLANT AND STORAGE AREA AT THE FIRST KYONGHUNG EXPLOSIVES PLANT.

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3. (S) COORDINATES 42-34-25N 130-19-35E

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Intelligence Sources
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